



**Billing Code 4333–15**

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

### **Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS–R5–ES–2019–N131; FXES11130500000–190–FF05E000000]**

### **Endangered and Threatened Species; Receipt of Recovery Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have received applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

**DATES:** We must receive your written comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

**ADDRESSES:** Use one of the following methods to request documents or submit comments. Requests and comments should specify the applicant name(s) and application number(s) (e.g., **TE123456**):

- *Email:* [permitsR5ES@fws.gov](mailto:permitsR5ES@fws.gov).
- *U.S. Mail:* Abby Gelb, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Dr. Hadley, MA 01035.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Abby Gelb, 413–253–8212 (phone), or [permitsR5ES@fws.gov](mailto:permitsR5ES@fws.gov) (email). Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on applications for permits under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The requested permits would allow the applicants to conduct activities intended to promote recovery of species that are listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA.

## **Background**

With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA's definition

of “take” includes such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting in addition to hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or for enhancement of propagation or survival of the species. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

#### **Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment**

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public to comment on the following applications.

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Type of Take</b>	<b>Permit Action</b>
TE53603D	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources	Candy darter ( <i>Etheostoma osburni</i> )	West Virginia	Capture, survey, and monitor via electrofishing; Translocate; Release	Capture, handle, hold more than 45 days, wound, kill	New
TE53724D	Auburn University, Auburn, AL	Kemp's ridley sea turtle ( <i>Lepidochelys kempii</i> )	Massachusetts	Parasitological research; Necropsy	Collect	New

## **Public Availability of Comments**

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record associated with this action. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

## **Next Steps**

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the *Federal Register*.

**Authority**

Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**Martin Miller,  
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Northeast Region.**

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